

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings includes changes to Figs. 1-4, as follows:

In Fig. 1, reference number 101 was removed and the lead lines for 111 and 113 were corrected.

In Figs. 2 and 3, the use of reference number 427 for Tier N was removed.

In Fig. 4, reference numbers 341 and 342 were added and reference number 338 was removed.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets
Annotated Sheets Showing Changes

REMARKS

Applicant requests favorable reconsideration of this application as amended.

The drawings and specification have been revised, where appropriate, to address the Examiner's objections to the drawings. The specification has also been editorially revised in order to place the application in better condition for issue.

Applicant requests reconsideration of the obviousness-type double patenting rejection in view of the claim amendments contained herein and the concurrently-filed amendment in co-pending application serial number 09/973,769.

Claims 1-10 stand rejected and will be discussed in detail below. New claims 11-20 have been added to provide more comprehensive protection for Applicant's invention. Accordingly, Claims 1-20 are pending for further consideration.

Without acceding to the outstanding rejection under 36 U.S.C. 102(e), Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly set forth certain distinctive features of the invention. Specifically, Claim 1 recites supplying identification information at a first node to a transmission received from the network even if a sender of the transmission is not identified, tracking network transmissions at the first node using the identification information and logging the identification information and a characteristic of the network transmission as traffic log information, communicating the traffic log information to another node. Further, Claim 1 recites disconnecting, at least temporarily, one or more nodes in the network to test for the origin and scope of a potential attack. The cited reference (U.S. Patent No. 6,321,338 to Porras) fails to teach or suggest the above-mentioned features of Claim 1. Thus, Claim 1, and its dependents distinguish patentably from the cited reference and should be allowed.

New independent Claims 11 and 16 also distinguish patentably from the cited reference. For example, Claim 11 recites temporarily disconnecting one or more nodes in the network to test for the origin and scope of a potential attack; and Claim 16 recites adding identification information to a transmission received at a first node from the network even if a sender of the transmission is not identified and tracking network transmissions at the first node using the identification information and logging the identification information and a characteristic of the network transmission as traffic log information. The cited references do not appear to teach or suggest the aforementioned features of Claims 11 and 16. Accordingly, new independent Claims 11 and 16, and their respective dependents are allowable.

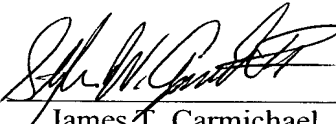
This application is now in condition for allowance and passage to issue is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that any further action is necessary to place this application in better form for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 (T3497-9105US01) any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been separately requested, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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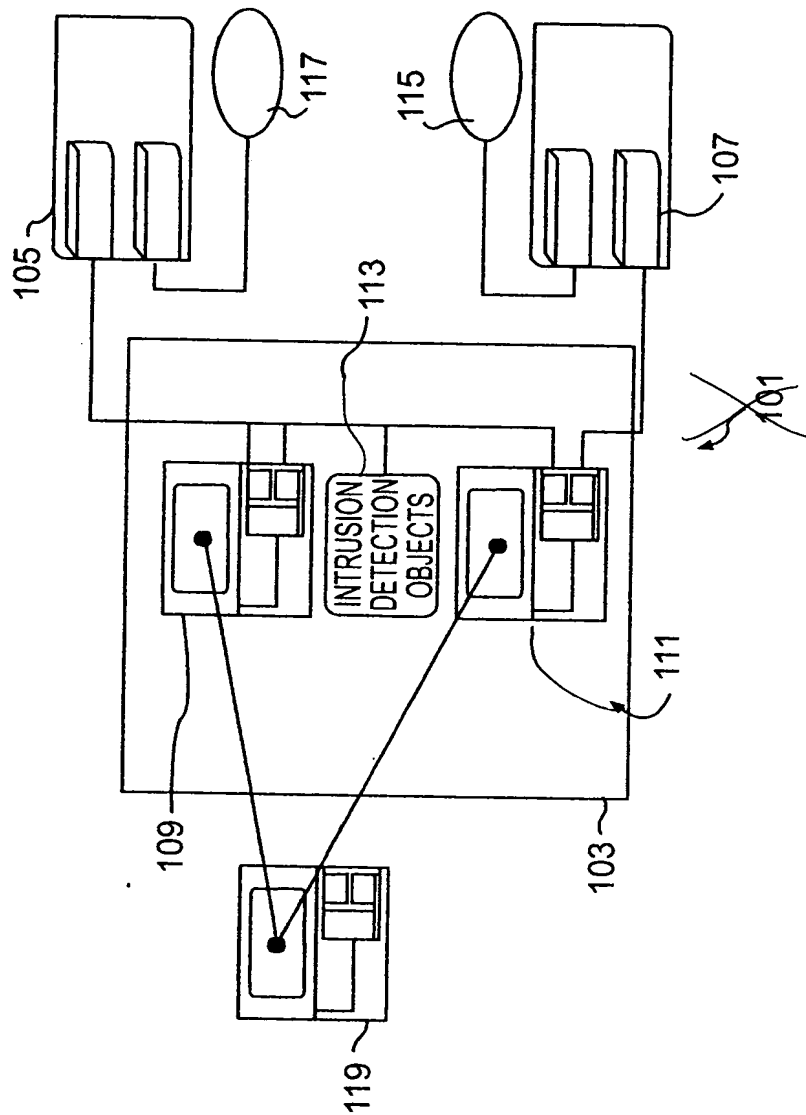


FIG. 1

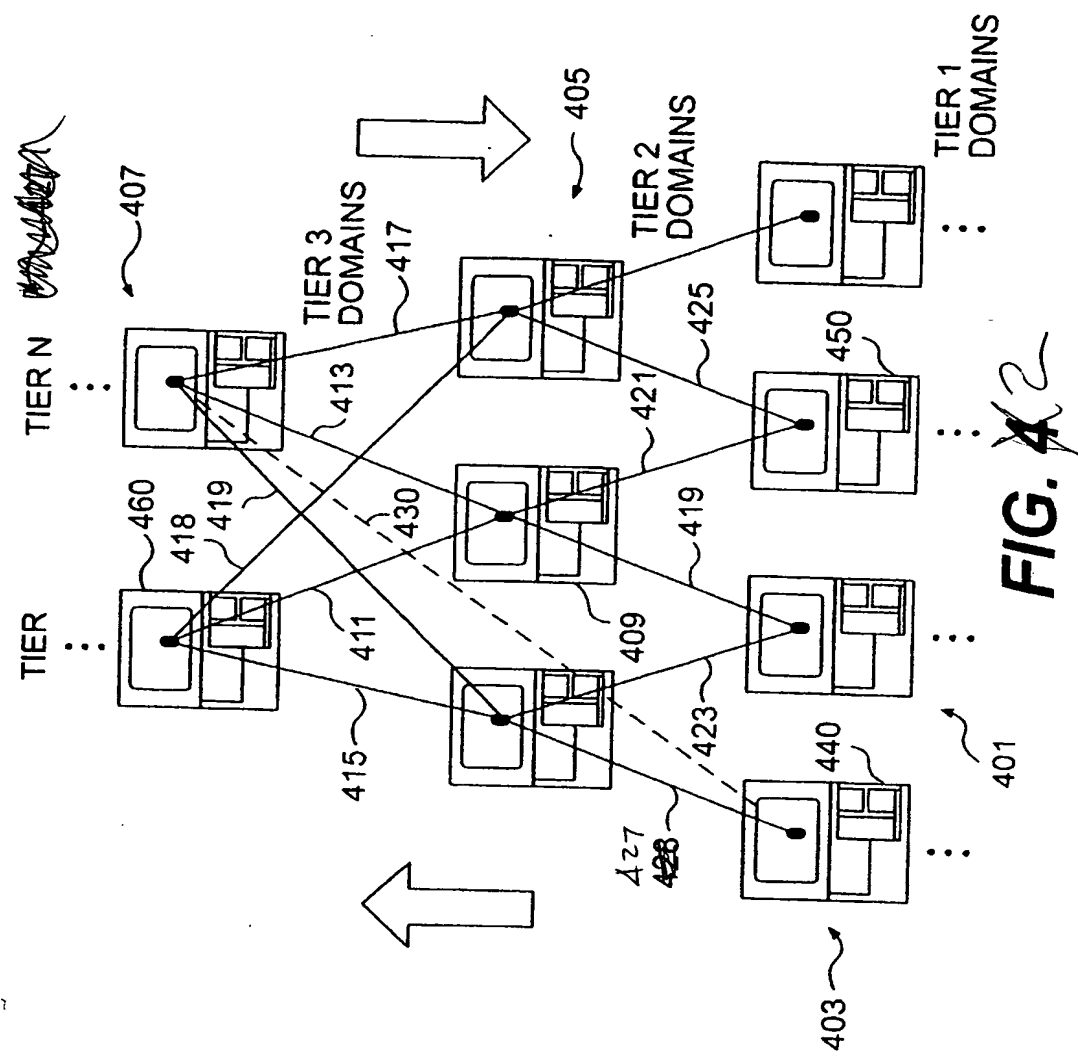




FIG. 4